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CLASSIFICATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 16 September 1955

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SUBJECT 1. VEB Funkwerk Koepenick Personnel and Production Difficulties
2. Specifications for the New Meddo Radar Device

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. In February 1955, the employees of Funkwerk Koepenick (radio engineering plant) were filled with misgivings after employees living in West Berlin were dismissed. It was rumored that another 300 engineers could be discharged. The poor morale among the work force and the small volume of orders on hand tended to make the work done at the radio engineering plant unprofitable. Development work on the Meddo equipment was placed under the collective responsibility of a group of engineers. 25X1

2. In March and early April, the situation at the plant was rather confused, especially in the field of development work. Leading development engineers openly stated that they thought of going to West Germany. Many technicians previously employed at the Koepenick radio engineering plant had already gone to West Germany.

3. A new department for "Technische Entwicklungsplanung" (Department for the Planning of Development Work) (TEP) was established at the enterprise at the initiative of Peter Schaeffer, who was made chief of this department. 25X1
Schaeffer, a prominent SED member, was previously assigned to the development department for heat producers (TEW). A Scientific Council to advise the works director in charge of technical development work was also established. Dr. Heinrich Weber, who was awarded a National Prize and previously was chief of the TE 2 Department (Technical Development Department 2) 25X1
is probably a member of the new council. Franz Rehder, previously chief of the TE 3 Department, was working on plans connected with the reorganization of technical development activities at the enterprise.

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4. In early May, many of the dismissal notices given were rescinded and the morale of the workers and employees improved. FDJ members conducted a recruitment campaign for the KVP and 25 young workers volunteered for service with the KVP. The Amt fuer Warenkontrolle (Office for Goods Control) wanted to hire young mechanics who were offered an initial salary of 460 DME per month. In the field of orders for marine radio equipment the situation had improved. It appeared that the TEF (technical development of ship transmitters) would be employed to capacity in 1955. In other

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fields of development work the situation was still rather confused, partly because of the vacillating policies of the Ministry of the Interior. In view of this unsatisfactory situation, development engineers were inclined to slow down their work and wait for a clarification of the working conditions. Rudolf Manthey, chief of the Antenna Development Department (Technische Entwicklung Antennen) (TEA) was replaced by Scheil.

5. The prototype of the newly developed Meddo set, an anticollision radar, remained at Koepenick after the completion of tests at sea. Only minor modifications were necessary after these tests. For example, the control oscillograph of the set was removed and a Seegangsentstoerer (heavy seas noise suppressor) was installed in the impulse generator. The operating regulations for the equipment, testing regulations and the report on the result of the first tests were to be completed in late February 1955. Development work on this equipment still had project No. K-5-28.

6. In April, work on the report of the Meddo equipment was to be started. The report had been ordered by the Interior Ministry, but it was inferred from a statement made by leading engineers that the Soviets were interested in this report because they were deeply impressed by the efficiency of the Meddo set. The development report was completed in early May. It will be printed after a final editing.

7. In February 1955, the Koepenick radio engineering plant suggested to the Interior Ministry that the Meddo set be subjected to land tests at Stubbenkammer on Ruegen Island. On this occasion, a maximum number of technicians was to be made familiar with the set. The tests were also to yield data for the further development of the antenna. By May, the Interior Ministry had not come to any decision on the project. In early May, the design for the new antenna had been completed and the antenna itself was under construction.

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8. According to a plan received by the [illegible] ment some time in early May 1955, monetary allocations for the development of anticollision radar equipment included 128,000 DME for project No. K-5-29, and 300,000 DME for project No. K-5-30. The second item had suffix letters GVS and was followed by an exclamation mark. Project No. K-5-29 referred to the building of two Meddo sets after the K-5-28 prototype. Work on the building of these two sets was begun in March. The sets were said to be earmarked for use by the KVP and were to be provided with a visual indicator.

9. In April the security regulations in force for the development of the Meddo equipment were tightened. The new plans and the last results of tests were made known only to a small circle of experts of political reliability. The records related to the further development of the equipment which were being kept under reference No. K-5-30 were only accessible to Scheuer, Mundte, Scheil, Ebert and some leading development engineers. All the records were treated as classified material.

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10. In the laboratories of the [redacted] Koepenick [redacted] plant, the following information was available on the specifications of the new Radar set:
    a. The set will probably be equipped with two pulse-recurrence frequencies. One of these frequencies was fixed at 2,000c/s.
    b. Purposely, the maximum range of the set was limited to 12 sea miles.
    c. The greatest stress was to be laid on highest possible range measuring exactness.
    d. The equipment was to be provided with two visual indicators, one of them meeting the highest requirements of exactness, while the other one was to serve as rough indicator.
    e. In April, it was being considered if it was advisable or not to have the previous transmitter-receiver unit split into several smaller and lighter construction units.

11. Work on the manufacture of the high-power receivers, which was discontinued in the winter of 1954/55, was resumed in April 1955. The calibration-voltage regulator (Eichspannungsteiler) "long" has been delivered to the Soviets. The calibration-voltage regulator "short" could not be completed by 31 April as scheduled, because Ing. Fritz Koehler had left the radio engineering plant.

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[redacted]